

REMARKS

This case has been carefully reviewed and analyzed in view of the Office Action dated September 18, 2007. Responsive to that Action, Claims 13 and 30 have been amended, and Claims 32-34 are newly-inserted for further prosecution.

Claim for Priority

In the Office Action, Examiner indicated that the present application is not entitled to the benefit of the filing date of the provisional application (331), as the provisional application does not provide support for such claimed elements as including the key lock, the stem connected to the shackle, a driving rod between a key lock and a mounting portion of the block. Responsive to this, Claim 13 has been amended to exclude those features noted by the Examiner and to be supported by the provisional application (331). Claims 30, 32 and 33 are original filed or new-added to depend directly or indirectly on the amended independent Claim 13. Further, the independent Claim 34 is also filed by this Amendment for further prosecution.

It is therefore, the present application shall be entitled to the benefit of the filing date of the provisional application. Hence, the main cited reference disclosed by Loughlin (324) shall no longer be considered.

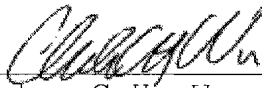
CONCLUSION

Applicant believes this case is now in condition for allowance of all claims therein. Such action is thus respectfully requested.

If the Examiner disagrees, or believes for any other reason that direct contact with Applicants' attorney would advance the prosecution of the case to finality, he is invited to telephone the undersigned at the number given below. For all the foregoing reasons, it is now believed that the subject Patent Application has been placed in condition for allowance, and such action is respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,

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